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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4859  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 0073

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 000699

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR JENNIFER M. PETERSON

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [CE](#) [SW](#)  
SUBJECT: SWEDES SEND BILATERAL COMMENT TO IMF CHAIR  
EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT SRI LANKAN DEFENSE SPENDING

REF: A. STOCKHOLM 693  
[1](#)B. NOVEMBER 5 E-MAIL TO J. PETERSON  
[1](#)C. STATE 113932

(SBU) Department for Asia and Pacific advisor Ingrid Widlund told post on November 6 that Sweden was unable to obtain all the necessary clearances to establish a Nordic-Baltic common position on this issue, despite having told post November 5 that this would be possible. Widlund said that Sweden did, however, send a bilateral comment to the chair of the IMF Board stating that Sweden is concerned about Sri Lankan defense spending. Widlund apologized, adding that this was "the best Sweden could do given the short notice."

BARZUN